

MINUTES



County of Inyo Board of Supervisors

March 31, 2026

The Board of Supervisors of the County of Inyo, State of California, met in regular session at the hour of 8:32 a.m., on March 31, 2026, in the Board of Supervisors Room, County Administrative Center, Independence, with the following Supervisors present: Chairperson Trina Orrill, presiding, Will Wadelton, Jeff Griffiths, Jennifer Roeser and Scott Marcellin. Also present: CAO David Fraser, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, and Assistant Clerk of the Board Darcy Israel.

Public Comment I The Chairperson asked for public comment related to closed session items and there was no one wishing to speak.

Closed Session Chairperson Orrill recessed open session at 8:33 a.m. to convene in closed session with all Board members present to discuss the following item(s): No. 2 **Conference with County's Labor Negotiators – Pursuant to Government Code §54957.6** – Regarding employee organizations: Deputy Sheriff's Association (DSA); Inyo County Correctional Officers Association (ICCOA); Inyo County Employees Association (ICEA); Inyo County Probation Peace Officers Association (ICPPOA); IHSS Workers; Law Enforcement Administrators' Association (LEAA). Unrepresented employees: all. County designated representatives – County Administrative Officer David Fraser, Assistant County Administrative Officer Denelle Carrington, Assistant Personnel Director Keri Oney, County Counsel John-Carl Vallejo, and Assistant County Counsel Christy Milovich; No. 3 **Existing Litigation – Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code §54956.9** – Name of case: City of Los Angeles, Department of Water and Power of the City of Los Angeles v. Inyo County Board of Supervisors, et al. Inyo County Superior Court Case No. 12908; No. 4 **Public Employee Performance Evaluation – Pursuant to Government Code §54957** – Title: Eastern Sierra Child Support Director; and No. 5 **Conference with Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation – Pursuant to paragraph (1) of subdivision (d) of Government Code §54956.9** – In Re: National Prescription Opiate Litigation Case No. 1:17-md-2804.

Open Session Chairperson Orrill recessed closed session and reconvened the meeting in open session at 10:14 a.m. with all Board members present.

Pledge of Allegiance Probation Chief Jeff Thomson led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Report on Closed Session County Counsel Vallejo reported that the Board met under Item Nos. 2 through 5 and said that the Board approved entering into a settlement agreement under Item No. 5 contingent upon all parties signing.

Public Comment II The Chairperson asked for public comment related to items not calendared on the agenda and comment was received from Lauralyn Hundley and In-Home Supportive Services (IHSS) employees Gina Martinez, Juanita Watterson, and "Deborah."

Board Member Reports Supervisor Marcellin reported that he attended an Owens Valley Groundwater Authority (OVGA) meeting.

Supervisor Wadelton said that he also attended the OVGA meeting and announced that he was named Vice Chairperson. He further noted his participation in the Friends of the Amargosa Basin's 3rd Annual Vole Fest, the "Unite Tecopa" music event, and the Lone Pine FFA Blue and Gold event at the Film History Museum. He thanked County staff who volunteered their time and expertise to support the FFA event.

Supervisor Roeser said that she attended meetings of the National Association of Counties (NACo) Rural Action Caucus and Rural Affairs Steering Committee, the Rural County

Representatives of California (RCRC), Golden State Finance, Golden State Natural Resources, Golden State Connect Authority, the Environmental Services Joint Powers Authority, and a Buttermilk Working Group meeting. She also attended meetings for the Eastern Sierra Jobs First Composting Group and Agriculture Activation Plan Group, and the Bishop Creek Wastewater System Committee along with representatives from the Forest Service.

Supervisor Orrill reported that she attended a special meeting of the Eastern Sierra Transit Authority (ESTA), an Eastern Sierra Council of Governments (ESCOG) Recreational Collaborative Implementation Collaboration meeting, and a California Office of Emergency Services (CalOES) Homeland Security Advisory Community meeting. Supervisor Orrill noted the success of the Youth Chess Tournament in Bishop, sponsored by the Bishop Rotary Club, and announced the tournament winners.

County Department Reports

Clerk-Recorder and Registrar of Voters Danielle Sexton said that her department will have an informational booth at the Bishop Paiute Tribe's Middle Mile Connected Light Up Event this Thursday. Sexton also provided Elections updates, information on Elections volunteering, and announced that tomorrow is the last day to file a Statement of Economic Interests (700) form.

Probation Chief Thomson shared legislative updates, reported that the Requests for Proposals for the At-Promise Youth Grants closed, and recognized staff who participated in the Baker to Vegas race. He briefed the Board on recent Chief Probation Officer Committee (CPOC) discussions regarding Proposition 36 funding, reinstating the Pre-Trial Program, and Senate Bill 1157 (informational handout provided), noting that all align with the County's Legislative Platform, and asked the Board to consider sending Letters of Support for each of the discussed items.

Deputy CAO Meaghan McCamman provided information on the recently published Regional Housing Needs Assessment and explained that the Community Housing Collective (Inyo and Mono counties, the City of Bishop, and the Town of Mammoth Lakes) worked with contracted BAE Urban Economics to collect data and will now begin developing an action plan for consideration this fall.

Clerk of the Board – Approval of Minutes

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve the minutes from the regular March 17, 2026 Board of Supervisors meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk of the Board – Mt. Whitney Cemetery District Board of Trustees Appointments

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to appoint Mr. Mark Taylor and Ms. Jessie Wilder to the Mt. Whitney Cemetery District Board of Trustees, to serve one unexpired four-year term ending May 31, 2027 and one unexpired four-year term ending May 31, 2028, respectively. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS – LGA Coordinator Appointment

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to appoint Stephanie Tanksley, Inyo County Health and Human Services Deputy Director Public Health and Prevention, as the Local Governmental Agency (LGA) Coordinator for Inyo County for the purposes of coordinating Medi-Cal Administrative Activities (MAA)/Targeted Case Management (TCM) activities with the California Department of Health Care Services, effective April 1, 2026. Motion carried unanimously.

HHS – Shared Vision Consultants Contract Amendment No. 1

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approval of Amendment No. 1 to the contract between the County of Inyo and Shared Vision Consultants of Dublin, CA, for the provision of Professional Consultant Services to increase the contract amount by \$200,000, for a total amount not to exceed \$275,000, and amend the scope of work; and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Planning Department – Daniel B. Stephens Contract Amendment No. 10

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve Amendment No. 10 to the contract between the County of Inyo and Daniel B. Stephens and Associates, Inc. for the provision of hydrological services, to amend all sections relating to the term of the agreement to be April 25, 2017 to April 25, 2027, contingent upon the Board's approval of the 2026-2027 Fiscal Year budget, and authorize the chairperson to sign. Motion carried

unanimously.

**CAO-Motor Pool –
Surplus Vehicle
Auction**

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to:

- A) Declare the vehicles identified in Exhibit A as surplus;
- B) Authorize Motor Pool to offer the vehicles for sale utilizing the Public Surplus auction site; and
- C) Authorize Motor Pool to utilize either the previously approved consignment auction agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management or another auctioneer for the removal and sale of any vehicles remaining unsold after the Public Surplus process.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Works –
H.W. Lochner, Inc.
Contract Amendment
No. 6**

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve Amendment No. 6 to the agreement between the County of Inyo and H.W. Lochner of Chicago, IL, increasing the contract to an amount not to exceed \$1,027,642, and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

**2026 Mule Days
Celebration Report**

Mule Days Director Donna Bird updated the Board on the 2026 celebration, noting that last year's grant funding from the County paid for livestreaming performances and that this year's funding supported a digital ad campaign that is already drawing new interest to the event. Director Bird highlighted expanded outreach, which included reconnecting with thousands of community volunteers as well as a youth-led pack mule education tour to local schools, and announced that a fundraiser barbecue will be held at the Elks Park on April 11.

**Sheriff –
Drug Enforcement
Administration
Agreement**

Moved by Supervisor Marcellin and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to ratify and approve the agreement between the County of Inyo and Drug Enforcement Administration of the United States Department of Justice (DOJ) for the provision of illicit cannabis eradication and suppression funding in an amount not to exceed \$15,000 for the period of October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026, and authorize the Sheriff or designee to sign the relevant documentation. Motion carried unanimously.

**CAO –
Southern CA Edison
Grant of Easement**

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Griffiths to:

- A) Approve a Grant of Easement to Southern California Edison (SCE) to allow for installation, operation, and maintenance of electrical infrastructure at 1001 County Road, Big Pine, and authorize the Chairperson to sign all documents necessary to convey the easement; and
- B) Find this action to be exempt from CEQA under Section 15305 (Minor Alterations in Land Use Limitations) as it involves a negligible expansion of an existing use previously approved and provides a minor change to the easement route for utility purposes.

Motion carried unanimously.

**CAO –
Budget Amendments**

Moved by Supervisor Griffiths and seconded by Supervisor Wadelton to:

- A) Amend the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Fuel Reduction Parks & Campgrounds Budget (612303) as follows: increase estimated revenue in State Grants (4498) by \$202,976 and increase appropriation as follows: increase Internal Charges (5121) by \$17,300; increase Professional Services (5265) by \$30,000; increase General Operating (5311) by \$5,676; and increase Equipment (5650) by \$150,000 (*4/5ths vote required*); and
- B) Amend the Fiscal Year 2025-2026 Fuel Reduction Vouchers Budget (612304) as follows: increase estimated revenue in State Grants (4498) by \$119,005 and increase appropriation as follows: increase Internal Charges (5121) by \$7,455; increase General Operating (5311) by \$14,350; and increase Professional Services (5265) by \$97,200 (*4/5ths vote required*).

Motion carried unanimously.

**Clerk of the Board –
SB Nos. 1084, 1118,
and 1162 Letters of
Support**

Moved by Supervisor Roeser and seconded by Supervisor Marcellin to approve letters of support for SB 1084 (Fire Safe Home Tax Credits Act), SB 1118 (Generator and Backup Power Tax Credits Act), and SB 1162 (FAIR Plan and WUI Prioritization); and authorize the Chairperson to sign. Motion carried unanimously.

Public Comment III

Chairperson Orrill asked if there was anyone wishing to provide public comment and County Counsel Vallejo noted for the record that written comment was received from Renata DeMello and will be a part of the meeting record.


Adjournment

The Chairperson adjourned the meeting at 11:36 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, April 14, 2026, at the Hurlbut Rook Community Center in Tecopa.



Chairperson, Inyo County Board of Supervisors

*Attest: DAVID FRASER
Clerk of the Board*

by: 

Darcy Israel, Assistant